

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES  
8 April 1976

## CHINA SHAKEUP SHOULDN'T AFFECT U.S. TIES, BUSH SAYS

From Times Wire Services

WASHINGTON—Central Intelligence Agency Director George Bush said Wednesday that despite the "turmoil and churning in China" the Peking political shakeup should not adversely affect relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States.

"The Central Committee has acted, and that should be a stabilizing influence on current events," the former chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking said.

The Chinese Communist Party announced Wednesday that Teng Hsiao-ping, once thought to be the heir to the late Chou En-lai, had been dropped from all political positions and Hua Kuo-feng had been named premier.

At the State Department, spokesman Robert Funseth said personalities play a secondary role in U.S.-China relations and that the "basic lines" of the relationship were expected to continue.

Funseth noted that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger had said in the past that the basic foreign policy of both China and the United States depended primarily on how the countries perceive their national interests.

Bush said "these matters are internal affairs of China" and he did not want to speculate on their meaning although he thought the Central Committee involvement and the appointment of Hua should stabilize the situation.

"They will sort it out. There does seem to be a certain turmoil and churning in China. It is something I should stay out of," Bush said.

"U.S.-China relations will not be adversely affected."

"I would only say that when I was in China I didn't foresee the events that have taken place in China," Bush said. "I don't think anyone else foresaw it."

Bush remained at the liaison post in China long enough to accompany President Ford last December to talks with Chinese Chairman Mao Tse-tung and with Teng, who acted as the President's host in place of the dying Chou.

Hua had no private meetings with Ford but spent many hours with Richard M. Nixon when the former President was in China in February.

Bush met reporters on Capitol Hill where he testified to bring the CIA retirement system in line with the Civil Service retirement system.